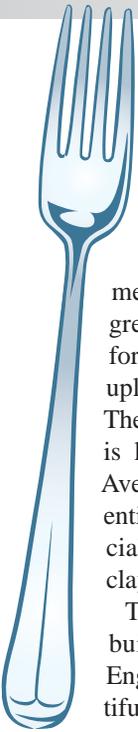


Travels with Bubba & Bonnie



This past month has been difficult for Bonnie and I, seven funerals in one month. We needed a few giggles and some intimate conversation with the enhancement of a great meal. We decided on a great place in Vermilion for our evening of spiritual uplift.

The Red Clay on the River is located at 5150 Liberty Ave, Vermilion. See the entire menu and other special details @ www.red-clayontheriver.com.

The architecture of the building is very New England, including a beautiful wrap around porch. I was a bit apprehensive about

the huge stairway to enter the building but they do have an elevator and the buzzer will bring an enthusiastic young person to operate it for you.

It was a Saturday evening and we had a thirty minute wait for a table. We were blessed with a table on the patio which gives you a beautiful view both up and down river. Looking in one direction we saw million dollar condos with docks for the yacht at your door. Looking the other direction we saw the bridge covered in a beautiful floral display. The sun was just setting and it looked as if the display was in a spot light just for us. Our server for the evening was Kate. She brought us coffee and iced tea and a few suggestions while we enjoyed the delightful evening air and tried to decide what to eat.

My Queen Goddess was famished so she ordered one of the Signature dishes, linguine, shrimp, seasonal veggies all tossed in a marinara sauce. This included a crisp salad with Bleu cheese

dressing and a fresh baked loaf of bread still warm from the oven.

I was only a little hungry so ordered a bowl of clam chowder and a mixed green salad. The chowder was the best I've had in years. It was loaded with tender clams and just a few potatoes. I'll be honest, it was almost finished before I spilled some on my shirt. The salad was a delightful mixture of several greens served ice cold with a special balsamic vinegarett dressing. The portions on both these dishes was huge, so big we skipped dessert.

We noted the couple seated next to us eating sandwiches so we asked them their opinion of the food and service. The gentleman, Fred, had ordered a "Riverburger" it looked about 8oz. and loaded with toppings.

His companion, Freida, had a fresh Lake Erie perch sandwich that was so fresh she had to stick a knife in it to keep it on the bun. These folks claimed to be regular customers and sang the praises of all the dishes and the service.

OK! We were refreshed spiritually, energized from the atmosphere, the great food, and splendid service. We were also a bit over budget. Dinner, drinks, sales tax, and a generous gratuity was just under \$45. I'll be honest- it was worth every penny. We will return again to Red Clay on the River

If y'all enjoy the folksy writin' in Travels with Bubba & Bonnie and would like to read about other topics meet us on the net @ www.associated-content.com Enter Alban Mehling in the search box and enjoy the writin'.

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IT IS THE BEST DAY YET !

A Rock & Roll Muse

By Helen Marketti

Sometimes when we listen to our favorite music we often think about a particular time in our life. Hearing a certain song can propel us back to high school, remembering when we got our first job, passing our driving test or some other significant event.

A chosen few can actually say, however, that they have personally known the musicians who have wrote the tunes that have contributed to the sound tracks of our lives. Hanging out with rock bands has its perks such as being given backstage passes, being invited to exclusive parties, being taken on vacations, shopping sprees and sometimes even being asked to go on tour.

The word "groupie" seems to have a stale stigma attached to the term and often the thoughts are not very complimentary. Groupies go with rock and roll territory and that's just the way it is. Think of rock groups of yesterday and today and chances are likely that a few lovely ladies will be eager to make the acquaintance of a drummer or lead guitarist and the feeling is usually mutual.



Pamela Des Barres

During the mid to late 60s Pamela was living in the Los Angeles area and doing her creative best to be closer to the musicians who were singing her favorite songs. "I wasn't satisfied with just hearing them on the radio. I wanted to make their acquaintance. I had a huge crush on Chris Hillman who was in The Byrds. When they were on tour I used to sneak on his porch and sleep in his hammock. He lived in the Laurel Canyon neighborhood which was a beautiful, magical place. So many of the rock guys lived there," Pamela recalls. Her little black book of close friends have included Jim Morrison, Keith Moon, Mick Jagger and Jimmy Page. She continues on to describe the music of that time, "It was a revolutionary time, a musical renaissance. It was the best music ever made."

While there will probably always be people who will draw their own conclusions of what a "groupie" is, Pamela's definition will offer a new spin on traditional thinking. "A groupie is a musician's writing muse. A true groupie is all about the music. Its spending time with people who inspire you, lift you up and encourage you to be creative yourself. A groupie is a girl who wants to be around groups, period."



Pamela and Jimmy Page

Pamela Des Barres, who is perhaps the most famous groupie of a rock and roll generation, has penned her memoirs in such juicy reads as, "I'm With The Band," (1987), "Take Another Little Piece of My Heart (A Groupie Grows Up)," (1992), "Rock Bottom: Dark Moments in Music Babylon," (1996). Her most recent page turner release is titled, "Let's Spend the Night Together," (2007), however this collection of memories is about "other friends" of the rock and roll famous. Taking nearly two years to complete the book, Pamela is entrusted with the bitter-sweet memories of women who have spent time with a well known band member or two.

Talking with Pamela is like catching up with a friend you haven't seen in awhile. "The word "groupie" had become tarnished and dated. Groupies were getting bad raps. "These women were right where they wanted to be and the musicians wanted them there, too," said Pamela when asked what made her decide to write the book.

DID YOU KNOW?...

... Pamela was in an all girl group called The GTO's (Girls Together Outrageously) and they were named by Frank Zappa.

... Pamela teaches creative writing classes.

... Pamela is also a minister who can perform wedding ceremonies.

... a documentary is in the works about her life.

To keep up with Pamela's latest happenings check out: PamelaDesBarres.com

For more information on her books you can check out Pamela's website or Amazon.com



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